

CLEAN VERSION OF THE CLAIMS

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1. (once amended) An isolator mechanism for use with a housing having a bearing with lubricant in the housing and a shaft protruding through the housing, the isolator comprising:
- a stator affixed to the housing and closely surrounding the shaft;
  - said stator having a radial groove formed therein with the walls of said groove extending between said housing and said shaft;
  - the exterior surface of a first wall of said groove facing the interior of the housing;
  - an axial hole in said first wall at the lower extremity of said first wall from said shaft connecting said groove to said housing.
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17. (twice amended) An isolator mechanism for use with a housing having a bearing with lubricant in the housing and a shaft protruding through the housing, to isolator comprising:

- a stator affixed to the housing and closely surrounding the shaft;
  - said stator having a radial groove formed therein with the walls of said groove extending between said housing and said shaft;
  - the exterior surface of a first wall of said groove facing the interior of the housing;
  - a plurality of axial holes in said first wall at the extremity of said first wall from said shaft connecting said groove to said housing.
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